



STATE OF WASHINGTON
ENERGY FACILITY SITE EVALUATION COUNCIL
PO Box 43172 • Olympia, Washington 98504-3172

August 13, 2007

The Honorable Chris Gregoire
Office of the Governor
PO Box 40002
Olympia, Washington 98504-0002

Subject: Sagebrush Power Partners, L.L.C. Project No. 2003-01, Kittitas Valley Wind
Power Project

Dear Governor Gregoire:

By your letter of June 22, 2007 you requested that the Energy Facility Site Evaluation (EFSEC or the Council) review Order 826 “solely...to determine on this particular project whether additional setbacks beyond the four times height (4xh) requirement for non-participating land owners are achievable while allowing the project to remain economically viable.” (Letter of June 22, 2007)

The Council held two public meetings in Ellensburg, Washington on July 17, 2007 to address this issue. Based on these hearings the Council has approved the attached Order No. 831 for your consideration.

Sixteen non-participating landowners are affected by the Council’s recommendation. Of these sixteen, four testified or submitted comments at our July 17, 2007 meetings. Testimony from these four indicates that moving the proposed turbines beyond the four times height limitation recommended would not resolve their objections, and that the impact on these landowners could only be resolved through project cancellation. This would render the project economically unviable. In our opinion, such an outcome is not supported by the record in this case. *See Transcript of July 17, 2007 meetings attached to Order No. 831.*

The Honorable Chris Gregoire
August 14, 2007
Page Two

The Council has, however, determined that some adjustments to the four times height requirement may provide some benefit to some of the sixteen landowners. This can be addressed through the process of “turbine micro-siting.” Accordingly, we recommend your approval of revised Site Certificate Agreement (SCA) amendments that require the applicant to:

“...give highest priority to increasing the distance of the turbine[s] from the non-participating landowner’s existing residence... even beyond the minimum four times height setback described above, so as to further mitigate and minimize any visual impacts on that non-participating landowner’s residence..” *See Article I, Section C, Subsection 7 to the revised Site Certificate Agreement at p. 11.*

With these micro siting amendments, we encourage your approval of the project.

Best regards

Jim Luce
EFSEC Chair

Enclosures